Letter written 1867
by Mrs Nancy Wells
to Mrs Polly McKeever

Astoria Oct the 19 67

Dear Friend I thought
I would try to answer your
kind letter to day we are all well at
present but I will hapt to tell you
some sad news along with the good one
week ago to day ~~me~~ Dr Trenchard died
of his old disease which was brought on
by the disipation I suppose you know
he was very fond of high living and
a little whisky withit and it brout on
the gout which he could not manage to
get red of it seems as if Mr Trenchard
has here hart full of trouble. this town
is growing slowly but Kidly they are
improveing they streets and there is two
new Churches bilt this Summer and
new bildings agoing up all the time

you would hardly know the place
in fact you would not know your
old place it has all gone to rack and
ruin discarded and forsaken all of the
flowers that Clarra took so much
pains to cultivate is gone to rack
we still live in the same old house
and no prospect of any better are
people are geting so grand here now
that my old things begins to look
quite rusty but it makes but little
difference with me so long as I am
fat and healthy and that I am you
would hardely know me I am so
fleshy & Granma how I would like to
have you to visit with again but
alas that time is gone by I think you
and I will never meet again I am
afraid in this world but we hope
to meet in the next if God is

writing I suppose you have learnt
before this time that Georgl Foster
is in California he married Miss Ingalls
and they have gone to California
I do not know what part I would
like to tell you a great deal more but
I cannot think of them you wanted
those lines that you and William
wrote William tride to find them
to send them to you but could
not they have got misplaced or
I in the old lady Chaffit sometimes
walk over the hill yet but she is getting
very much stoop over and looks
quite feble Mrs Lamphere looks
prety well but the winters orchard
on her she is like the rest of us are
geting old Mr Hustlers folk are well
and every body so for as I know John
has bin gone from home over a year

he is in Salem and they say he
is married but he dose not tell me
so if he is I do not no but it is so
I shant contradict it untill I know
better) there is one thing Granma
that I dont know much about
that is politics but one thing I
do know that union and disunion
has caused a great split in this town
which it will take years to remove
I want you to write to me often
and ask me any question you
wish to no or any thing and I
will answer you to the best of
my ability it gives me great
pleasure to hear from my friends
and especly you Grandmother
I shall now close by saying the
family are and all sends there
love to you please remember me
to Grandpa and all the folks
Jane and Clarra and every body
so good by for the present

Nancy Welch